Man Seized In Probe of JFK Slaying

First Arrest Made In New Orleans Official's Inquiry

PW 3/2/67

NEW ORLEANS, March 1 (UPI)—A New Orleans man was arrested today in connection with "a conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy." It was the first arrest in District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the 1963 Kennedy assassination. No immediate charge was filed.

The man was identified in a statement signed by the district attorney as Clay Shaw, 54, a well-known resident of New Orleans and former managing director of the International Trade Mart here.

The announcement was made outside the locked doors of Garrison's office at 6:40 p.m. by a spokesman for the office. The spokesman said Shaw had been questioned since about 2 p.m.

Garrison promised "arrests . . . and convictions obtained" on Feb. 18, when he first confirmed reports that he was making a new investigation of the assassination in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

Shaw Subpoenaed

Later, he claimed to have "solved" the assassination and promised he would arrest everyone involved in it. Garrison maintains that he has uncovered a conspiracy overlooked by the Warren commission.

Shaw went to Garrison's office by himself after being subpoeaned by Garrison.

He was the second person so far to be summoned in the case. The first was James R. Lewallen, 38, a guality control inspector for the Boeing Co.

Lewallen's attorney said Lewallen once shared an apartment with David Ferrie, a key figure in Garrison's probe.

Ferrie was found read of a brain hemorrhage a week ago. Garrison called him a major figure in his probe.

Lewallen left the District Attorney's office today after a lengthy session. Garrison was absent from the office most of the day, but returned about 4 p.m.

Personnel in the office indicated the questioning of the two men was handled by assistants.

In Mexico City, the newspaper Novedades said police have the names of at least 14 persons, including some U.S. nationals, with whom Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin, had "direct or indirect" contact.

Oswald went by bus to Mexico City from New Orleans, where he was ostensibly a member of the pro-Castro "Fair Play for Cuba Committee."

Shaw, a native of Kentwood, La., moved to New Orleans with his family at the age of 5. For a time, he lived in New York City, where he was engaged in advertising and public relations work. The Trade Mart, which he helped found in 1947, is a privately supported nonprofit organization formed to promote trade through the port of New Orleans.

Earlier today funeral services were held for Ferrie. The church was empty, except for two mourners who refused to give their names.

Before today's arrest, newly nominated Attorney General Ramsey Clark pointedly invited Garrison to turn over to Federal authorities any new evidence he has on the assassination of President Kennedy.

Clark told newsmen yesterday that he was very doubtful that Garrison had unearthed anything really new, but said that if the New Orleans official has anything substantial "he has the responsibility to turn it over to the people who conducted the entire investigation."

See ORLEANS, A12, Col. 6